

After reading newspaper articles, academic analysis and the reports of public-interest advocates and civil-society groups, I am greatly concerned that lifting the cross-ownership ban rules will endanger the diversity of views that is vital in a democracy.

I urge the FCC, in its role as regulator of the public airwaves and serving communities and consumers to PLEASE keep this important restriction to prevent further media consolidation which is having a detrimental affect on our democracy and cultural vibrancy as a nation.

We have seen the way that profit-pressures and corporate consolidation are damaging journalism (as many newspaper editors, TV producers and media executives have noted), we have seen the reduction of opportunities for independent artists and musicians, we know the risks to minority ownership and participation in media.

Consumers deserve to have truly independent and diverse choices.

No single company should be able to provide their exclusive news to a huge percentage of the market.

This is not choice, this is not democracy, this is not American.

The waves of consolidation after the 1996 Telecom Act proved that deregulation does not equal diversity.

We must ensure a plurality of media voices and news outlets.

Please do not lift the ban.

Please consider preserving and strengthening ownership regulations.

Thank You.